

MINUTES**General Assembly of Members at the 9th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Dermatological Research**

Amsterdam, June 12 1979

MALCOLM W. GREAVES, SECRETARY

1. *Present:* 68 active and senior members.

2. *Presidential address:* The President, R. Marks, drew attention in his address to the rapid growth in membership of the society, which had now reached 299. Though highly desirable, the expansion underlines the need for the society to strengthen its cohesiveness thus enabling it to maintain and extend its influence on European dermatology. Turning to the 1979 combined E.S.D.R.-S.I.D. meeting, the President welcomed the substantial attendance at this meeting of members of the Society for Investigative Dermatology. He observed that collaboration between the E.S.D.R. and S.I.D. was now firmly established and would be further strengthened by the decision of Boards of both societies to hold the next combined meeting in 1983.

The President expressed the gratitude of the E.S.D.R. to the many pharmaceutical companies who have provided support for the 1979 combined meeting, especially Vick International, Syntex Corporation and Max Ritter.

3. The Minutes of the 1978 General Assembly were approved without dissent.

4. *Report of the Secretary:* The Secretary, M. Greaves, expressed his concern about the organization of the Office of the Secretary. Growth in the size of the society, and in the scope and complexity of its activities had led, over the last few years, to a substantial increase in the burden of work of the office. Much of this work was undertaken by the Secretary's own personal secretary in addition to her ordinary extensive departmental duties. This fact had been recognized by the Board who had awarded an annual honorarium to her. M. Greaves warned the society that while this arrangement would suffice for the next year or two, the time was rapidly approaching when a more firm arrangement would have to be made, possibly in the shape of a permanent part-time paid secretarial post in the office of the E.S.D.R. Secretary.

5. *Report of the Treasurer:* The Treasurer, W. van Vloten, reported that the current credit balance of the E.S.D.R. stood at 44,045.09 NG (income during previous year: 62,403.01 NG; expenditure 18,357.92 NG). The Treasurer's report was accepted without dissent by the members.

6. *Report of the Publication Committee:* This report was given by Ruth Freinkel, Editor of the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*. It is published in detail elsewhere (*J Invest Dermatol*, Nov. 1979). The report was accepted by the membership and the President expressed the thanks of the society to Dr. Freinkel for her efforts to maintain and extend the influence of the Journal and for taking the trouble to deliver the report in person.

7. *Report of the Programme Committee:* H. Schaefer re-

ported that 140 European and 81 U.S. abstracts had been submitted and of these 75 had been selected for formal and 59 for poster presentations at the 1979 E.S.D.R.-S.I.D. Joint Meeting. Some members, while approving of the programme in general had reservations about the lack of time set aside for inspection of posters. Others preferred the existing arrangements. Dr. Schaefer agreed to review these arrangements before the next meeting of the E.S.D.R.

8. *Report of the Education Committee:* R. Caputo reported that the following meetings had been sponsored by the E.S.D.R. during the year 1978-1979: Psoriasis, Trieste, October 1978; Prostaglandins and cyclic AMP, Copenhagen, May 1978; Mammalian pigmentation, Lyons, November 1978; Vasculitis, Innsbruck, February 1979; Epidermis in Disease, Cardiff, April 1979.

The following E.S.D.R. sponsored meetings are to be held in 1979-1980: Bio-engineering and the skin, July 1979; The Second European Workshop on mammalian pigmentation, London, November 1979; The Histiocyte in cutaneous pathology, Catania, January 1980.

9. *Appointment of New Members:* 5 Senior members, 41 active members and 1 supporting member were admitted to the society by unanimous approval.

10. *Appointments of members of the Board:* The President reported the resignation of R. Caputo. According to Article 6 of section 7 of the statutes, the following members were retiring from the Board: A. Claudy, M. Greaves, L. Swanbeck. The Board recommended an increase in its number from 12 to 14. The Board also recommended the following appointments to the Board: M. Greaves (re-election), A. Claudy (re-election), S. Liden (Umea), J. Camarasa (Barcelona), G. Gianetti (Pavia), A. Garcovitch (Roma). These recommendations were accepted by the General Assembly without dissent.

11. *Officers of the Board:* The President reported the appointment of the following as officers of the Board for 1979-1980: President, H. Schaefer; Secretary, M. Greaves; Treasurer, W. van Vloten.

12. *Location of future meetings:* The Secretary reminded the membership that owing to the growth of membership of the Society, accommodation of adequate size could not be obtained at a reasonable rental rate at the Rai Centre, Amsterdam. For this and possibly other reasons, alternative accommodation ought to be considered for 1981 at the latest. After some discussion, in which a wide range of views were expressed, it was decided to instruct the Board to examine conference facilities at Noordwijk and the Hague as a possible alternative site for the Annual Meeting in 1981.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.